STATE OF MONTANA

Fish and Game Department

1955 MIGRATORY WATERFOWL SEASON 1955

General regulations governing the taking of migratory waterfowl, including ducks, geese, mergansers, coots, mudhens and other species thereof.

OPEN AREA: Statewide except for State and Federal Game Preserves and areas closed for the propagation of game birds.

OPEN SEASON: Ducks - From October 8, 1955 through December 21, 1955.

Geese - From October 8, 1955 through December 6, 1955.

SHOOTING HOURS: From one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT: Ducks - Daily bag limit shall be five (5), the possession limit shall be ten (10) ducks. Daily bag and possession limits may include one wood duck and one hooded merganser. American and red-breasted mergansers (fish ducks) are to be included in the daily bag and possession limit.

Geese: The daily bag and possession limit shall be five (5) geese. Such limit may not include more than: (A) two Canada geese or its subspecies (B) two white fronted geese (C) one Canada goose or its subspecies and one white fronted goose.

No open season on snow geese in Beaverhead, Gallatin and Madison counties.

Coot: (Mud Hens) The daily bag and possession limit shall be ten (10) birds.

HUNTING METHODS:

Permitted: Migratory game birds MAY be taken with or by use of --

(A) Shotgun not larger than No. 10 gauge fired from the shoulder.
(B) Bow and arrow.
(C) Dog.
(D) Blind or floating craft other than motorboat, sailboat, or a sinkbox (except as in (D) below).
(E) Picking up only by means of motorboat, sailboat, or other craft, of injured or dead waterfowl, coots, rails, or gallinules.

Prohibited: Migratory game birds MAY NOT be taken with or by use of --

(A) Motor vehicle or any motor-driven conveyance.
(B) Aircraft.
(C) Sinkbox (battery).
(D) Motorboat, sailboat, when not beached, resting at anchor or fastened within or tied to a stationary hunting blind, or any craft towed by motorboat or sailboat.
(E) Rifle.
(F) Automatic-loading or hand-operated repeating shotgun of more than three-shell capacity in magazine and chamber combined. (Any metal plug or wooden filler must be incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.)
(G) Live duck or goose decoys.

(over)

Hunting Methods (cont.)

Waterfowl MAY NOT be hunted by means, aid, or use of cattle, horses, or mules (as blinds or to enable the gunner to approach the birds).

Waterfowl and coots MAY NOT be rallied or stirred up by means of a motor-driven land, water, or air conveyance or sailboat.

Migratory game birds may not be taken by the aid of salt, or shelled, or shucked or unshucked corn, wheat, or other grains, or other feed or means of feeding similarly used to lure, attract, or entice such birds to, on, or over the area where hunters are attempting to take them. The terms "shelled or shucked or unshucked corn, wheat, or other grains" or "other feed or means of feeding similarly used," are not construed as including properly shocked grain, standing crops (including aquatics), flooded standing crops, flooded harvested crop lands, or grains found scattered solely as a result of normal agricultural planting or harvesting.

PRECAUTIONARY METHODS:

Violations. - Violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, noncompliance with any regulation thereunder, or failure of a hunter over the age of 16 years to have a properly signed migratory-bird hunting stamp of current issue on his person while hunting migratory waterfowl will subject the offender to a fine of not more than $500, imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both. Hunting stamps are obtainable at post offices.

BANDED BIRDS:

Hunters. - If you take any migratory game birds carrying leg bands, please report date and locality where taken and furnish complete SERIAL NUMBERS to Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C.